

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 604

By Freeman

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of James Arrington  
"Jimmy" Webb III of Nashville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of James Arrington "Jimmy" Webb III; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Webb was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born on March 5, 1948, Jimmy Webb was the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Arrington Webb, Jr.; he was a graduate of Montgomery Bell Academy and Vanderbilt University, where he was a member of Phi Delta Theta; and

WHEREAS, upon his college graduation, Mr. Webb honorably served this country as a commissioned officer in the United States Navy as a member of the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, and Operation Deep Freeze, a scientific study in New Zealand; for his years of service, he received the Navy Commendation Medal and the Navy Unit Citation; and

WHEREAS, he was honorably discharged from the United States Navy in 1975, and upon his return home to Nashville, he worked at the insurance brokerage firm McKee Geny & Thornton; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Webb teamed up with Bill Freeman in 1979 to launch Freeman Webb, Inc., a real estate brokerage, acquisition, and management company; over the years, the business has grown to manage more than 10,000 apartment units and one million square feet of commercial space across the Southeast; at the time of his passing, Mr. Webb was the president of Freeman Webb, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Webb and Mr. Freeman had recently expanded into the publishing business, acquiring the *Nashville Scene*, *Nashville Post*, and *Nfocus* magazine in 2018; a few

months later, they purchased the holding company for the Home Page Media family of Williamson County websites; and

WHEREAS, a 32<sup>nd</sup> degree Mason, Jimmy Webb was wholly devoted to serving his community; he volunteered with the Tennessee Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program, the Tennessee State University Foundation, and Buddies of Nashville, and

WHEREAS, at the time of his passing, he was vice chairman of the Nashville Zoo's board of directors, Trustee Emeritus at Montgomery Bell Academy, and a member of the board of directors for Men of Valor, a prison ministry organization; and

WHEREAS, he previously served as chairman of the boards of the Sister Cities of Nashville, YMCA of Middle Tennessee, and Montgomery Bell Academy; a board member of the Better Business Bureau of Nashville and the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce; and a founding member of the Nashville Zoo executive board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Webb was an active and devout member of First Presbyterian Church, which he served faithfully for many years as an elder; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Webb enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Rebecca Smotherman Webb; he was the proud father of Jim Webb IV, Chris Webb, and Charles Webb and the devoted grandfather of Abby Webb and James Webb V; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Webb leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of James Arrington "Jimmy" Webb III, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Webb.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.